

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus (21) for assembling a collapsible enclosure assembly (1) onto a container (11), the enclosure assembly (1) being of the type comprising a plurality of collapsible walls (2, 3, 4) and which is adapted to be supported, when erected, on the container (11) so that, in situ, the enclosure assembly (1) encloses a region above the container (11), the apparatus (21) comprising:

a carriage configured to move a collapsed enclosure assembly (1) from a storage position ~~[[25]]~~ to an assembly position (36), wherein the carriage comprises a first planar element (41) that is movable between the storage position and the assembly position (36) and against which the collapsed enclosure assembly (1) can rest, and a retainer to grab a collapsed enclosure assembly (1) from the storage position and to retain the enclosure assembly (1) on the first planar element (41);

an actuator to move the walls (2, 3, 4) of the collapsed enclosure assembly (1) when in the assembly position (36) relatively apart to expand the enclosure assembly (1) so as to be of generally tubular form, ~~and a mounter to mount the expanded enclosure assembly (1) on a corresponding container (11);~~ the actuator ~~comprises~~ including a finger (47) positionable externally of the enclosure assembly and positionable internally of the enclosure assembly, wherein when internally located, the finger (47) engages with an internal surface of one of the walls of the enclosure assembly and when driven, the finger (47) expands the walls relatively apart, wherein the actuator to move the walls (2, 3, 4) of the enclosure assembly (1) relatively apart is arranged to pull an opposed wall away from a first wall of the enclosure assembly (1) and includes a second planar element (51) against which the opposed wall of the collapsed enclosure assembly (1) can rest, and wherein the finger is movable between a first orientation where the finger (47) is insertable through an aperture of the respective wall (2, 3) of the

enclosure assembly (1) to a second orientation whereby the finger (47) retains the respective wall (2, 3) of the enclosure assembly (1) on the second planar element (51) but is not removable through the aperture; and

a mounter to mount the expanded enclosure assembly (1) on a corresponding container (11).

2. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 1 wherein the apparatus (21) is adapted to assemble collapsible enclosure assemblies (1) of the type comprising a first two opposed walls (2, 3) and a second two opposed walls (4), the enclosure assembly (1), when expanded, being of quadrilateral cross section.

3. (Currently amended) The apparatus (21) of claim 1 or claim 2 further comprising a storage assembly [[[25]]] for storing at least one collapsed enclosure assembly (1).

4. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 3 wherein the storage assembly comprises a chute (25), the enclosure assembly (1) being located between parallel side walls of the chute (25) in a substantially upright condition with the enclosure assembly (1) being adjacent to an end wall (27) of the chute (25).

5. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 4 wherein the chute (25) is inclined with the end wall (27) being lowermost.

6. (Currently amended) The apparatus (21) of claim 4 wherein [[the]] a base of the chute (25) is provided with a conveyor (29, 31) to convey a collapsed enclosure assembly (1) towards the end wall (27) of the chute (25).

7. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 4 wherein the end wall (27) is spaced from the end margins of the side walls of the chute (25) by a distance greater than the thickness of the enclosure assembly (1) when in the collapsed condition.

8. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 6 wherein the conveyor (29, 31) is of walking beam type comprising two parallel beams (31) that sequentially move upwardly, forwardly and then downwardly to sequentially lift the enclosure assembly (1), move the enclosure assembly (1) towards the end wall (27) of the chute (25) and to lower the enclosure assembly (1).

9. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 4 wherein the chute (25) stores multiple collapsed enclosure assemblies (1) in a substantially horizontal row.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) The apparatus (21) of claim [[10]] 1 wherein the retainer ~~(47) grabs and retains a~~ is configured to grab and retain the first wall of the enclosure assembly (1).

12. (Currently amended) The apparatus (21) of claim [[10]] 1 wherein the first planar element (41) of the carriage (37) is movable along a guide rail (35) on the apparatus (21).

13. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 12 wherein the guide rail (35) is located substantially perpendicularly to the longitudinal axis of the chute (25).

14.-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) The apparatus (21) of claim [[16]] 1 wherein the second planar element (51) is movable between a position adjacent the first planar element (41) in which the finger grabs and retains the opposed wall of the enclosure assembly (1) against the second planar element and when so retained, is movable to a position distal from the first planar element (41), the movement from the position adjacent the first planar element (41) to the position distal from the first planar element (41) pulling the opposed wall of the enclosure assembly (1) away from the first wall of the enclosure assembly (1) to expand the enclosure assembly (1).

18. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 17 wherein each planar element (41, 51) comprises a plate.

19.-20 (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) The apparatus (21) of claim [[19]] 1 wherein the finger is rotatable between the first and second orientation.

22. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 21 wherein the rotatable finger (47) is mounted on a shaft (45) that is operative to extend the finger (47) through the aperture and rotate the finger (47) to the second orientation.

23. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 22 wherein the finger (47) extends substantially perpendicularly from the longitudinal axis of the shaft (45).

24. (Currently amended) The apparatus (21) of claim [[19]] 1 wherein two fingers (47) are provided for the second planar element.

25. (Currently amended) The apparatus (21) of claim [[10]] 1 wherein the retainer comprises a suction cup adapted to suck onto a wall of the enclosure assembly (1) using a vacuum.

26. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 25 wherein the suction cup is connected to a vacuum source.

27. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 1 wherein the apparatus (21) further comprises a container storage assembly (56).

28. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 27 wherein the container storage assembly (56) is located distal from the assembly position (36).

29. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 27 wherein the container storage assembly (56) stores multiple containers (11) in a substantially vertical stack.

30. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 27 wherein a conveyor is provided to convey a container (11) from the container storage assembly (56) to the assembly position (36) such that the container (11) is positioned beneath an enclosure assembly (1) when the enclosure assembly (1) is in the expanded condition at the assembly position (36).

31. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 1 wherein the mounter comprises a lift (61) to lift the container (11) into engagement with the expanded enclosure assembly (1) to enable the enclosure assembly (1) to be mounted on the container (11).

32. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 31 wherein the lift (61) comprises a pivotable arm (63) on which the container (11) rests, the arm (63) being pivotable between a lowered position and a raised position.

33. (Previously presented) The apparatus (21) of claim 32 wherein the arm (63) is pivotable using a hydraulic ram (67).

34. (Currently amended) A method of assembling a collapsible enclosure assembly (1) of the type comprising a plurality of collapsible walls (2, 3 4) and which is adapted to be supported, when erected, on a container (11) so that, in situ, the enclosure assembly (1) encloses a region above the container (11), the method comprising:

moving a collapsed enclosure assembly (1) from a storage position ~~[[(25)]]~~ to an assembly position (36) with a carriage that comprises a first planar element (41) that is movable between the storage position and the assembly position (36) and against which the collapsed enclosure assembly (1) can rest, and a retainer to grab a collapsed enclosure assembly (1) from the storage position and to retain the enclosure assembly (1) on the first planar element (41);

moving the walls (2, 3, 4) of the enclosure assembly (1) relatively apart to expand the collapsed enclosure assembly (1) when in the assembly position (36) so that the enclosure assembly (1) is of generally tubular form with an actuator that includes a finger (47) positionable externally of the enclosure assembly and positionable internally of the enclosure assembly and a second planar element (51), wherein the walls are moved by

inserting the finger (47) through an aperture of the respective wall (2, 3) of the enclosure assembly (1) in a first orientation such that the finger (47) engages with an internal surface of the enclosure assembly, retains the respective wall (2, 3) of the enclosure assembly on a second planar element (51) of the actuator and is not removable through the aperture;

driving the finger (47) to expand the walls relatively apart by pulling an opposed wall away from a first wall of the enclosure assembly (1); and

mounting the ~~erected~~ expanded enclosure assembly (1) on a corresponding container (11), ~~and wherein moving the walls relatively apart comprises causing a finger to move from a~~

~~position external of the enclosure assembly to a position internal to the enclosure assembly and when in the position internal to the enclosure assembly, driving the finger so that the finger engages with the wall and expands the walls relatively apart.~~

35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[33]] 34 wherein the enclosure assembly (1) comprises a first two opposed walls (2, 3) and a second two opposed walls (4), the method comprising moving the first two opposed walls (2, 3) relatively apart and then moving the second two opposed walls (4) apart.

37. (Currently amended) The method of claim 34 wherein the method comprises initially retaining [[a]] the first wall of the enclosure assembly (1) and moving the retained enclosure assembly (1) to the assembly position (36).

38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37 further comprising conveying a container (11) from a container storage assembly (56) to the assembly position (36) and positioning the container (11) beneath the expanded enclosure assembly (1).

40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 39 wherein the method further comprises lifting the container (11) into engagement with the expanded enclosure assembly (1).